

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/585,025

Examiner

Igor Borissov

Applicant(s)

LINGLE ET AL.

Art Unit

3639

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Telephone Interview of 09/21/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20,22-45 and 47-51.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☒ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

IGOR N. BORISSOV
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 112; 35 USC § 102 and 35 USC § 103 have been withdrawn due to the results of Interview conducted on 09/21/2006.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with an applicant's representative Raymond Tabandeh (Reg. No.:43,945) on Thursday, September 21, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An on-line system for printing a value bearing item (VBI) comprising:

a user printer for printing the VBI;

a client subsystem for interfacing with a user comprising;

a display monitor for displaying a graphical user interface (GUI) ~~for installing software for printing the VBI;~~

a printers database including top, center, or bottom feed information of a plurality of printers; and

a controller for activating a printing wizard for managing the printing of the VBI by the user printer, the controller is configured to access the printers database and when feed information of the user printer is in the printers

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database, the controller is further configured to control the user printer to print a first quality assurance indicium, and to display on the display monitor a second quality assurance indicium wherein the printing wizard determines top, center, or bottom offset, prints a quality assurance indicium, wherein the printing wizard includes a user interface and the controller is further configured to for accepting accept user feedback from the user interface about whether the printed first quality assurance indicium compares correctly to the displayed second quality assurance indicium, and wherein if when the user feedback input in from the user interface indicates that the first quality assurance indicium prints compares correctly, the printing wizard controller is further configured to upload the feed information for the user printer from the printers database and to control the user printer to print then prints the VBI;
and

a server subsystem for communicating an authorization to the client subsystem over a computer network for authorizing the client subsystem to print the VBI.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the VBI bears postage value.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the VBI is a ticket.

4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the VBI is one or more of a coupon, a voucher, and a check.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the client subsystem further comprises a GUI for specifying a payment method.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the client subsystem further comprises a GUI for making changes to the user's information.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the client subsystem further comprises a GUI for displaying the user information including an account information.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the account information includes an amount of credit left in the account.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the client subsystem further comprises a GUI for specifying an address book from a plurality of address books so that the system can use the address book to print addresses.

10. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the client subsystem further comprises a GUI for entering a password so that the server subsystem can store the entered password and verify the password.

11. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the server subsystem includes an address matching module for verifying an address entered by the user.

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12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the GUI ~~for installing software~~ comprises of a second GUI for the user to specify the type of connection to the computer network.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the GUI ~~for installing software~~ comprises of a second GUI for reporting error messages to the user.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the GUI ~~for installing software~~ comprises of a second GUI for canceling an installation process.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, ~~wherein the~~ further comprising a second GUI for registering the user comprises of a GUI for entering user information.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 15, wherein the GUI ~~for registering the user~~ comprises of a second GUI for offering the user a plurality of service plans and for selecting by the user a service plan of choice.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 15, wherein the GUI ~~for registering the user~~ comprises a second GUI for reporting error messages to the user.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the GUI ~~for registering the user~~ comprises a second GUI for canceling a registration process.

19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the GUI ~~for managing the printing~~ comprises a second GUI for displaying a graphical image of the VBI.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the GUI ~~for managing the printing~~ user printer prints the quality assurance indicium on an envelope.

21. Cancelled.

22. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the GUI printing wizard for managing the printing comprises of a GUI for troubleshooting selected printing options.

23. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the GUI printing wizard for managing the printing comprises of a GUI for providing envelope options.

24. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the GUI printing wizard for managing the printing comprises a GUI for providing label options.

25. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the GUI printing wizard for managing the printing comprises a GUI for providing postage options.

26. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the GUI printing wizard for managing the printing comprises a GUI for reporting error messages to the user.

27. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the ~~GUI~~ printing wizard for managing the printing comprises a GUI for canceling a print process.

28. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5 further comprising a second GUI for displaying credit card information fields to be filed by the user when the user specifies a credit card for the payment method.

29. (Currently Amended) ~~An interactive online~~ A method for printing online postage ~~printing system~~ comprising:

displaying a first graphical user interface (GUI) for ;
inputting by a user a command to print ~~printing~~ a sample print including a ~~symbol~~, predetermined indicator using the first GUI; and a second GUI for

printing the sample print with the predetermined indicator using a user printer;

displaying a plurality of selectable predetermined indicators ~~symbols~~ for a user to select one of the displayed plurality of predetermined indicators; symbols matching the symbol printed on the sample print and based on the selected symbol, determining a print offset

selecting by the user a predetermined indicator from the plurality of displayed selectable predetermined indicators that matches the predetermined indicator printed with the sample print;

establishing the user printer as a top feed printer, center a feed printer, or a bottom feed printer, based on the matched predetermined indicator selected by the user; and

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printing the online postage according to the established feed configuration of the user printer.

30. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 29, further comprising ~~a registration wizard including a GUI for~~ specifying a payment method.

31. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 30 further comprising ~~a GUI for~~ displaying credit card information fields to be filled by the user.

32. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim ~~31~~ 30, wherein ~~the registration wizard includes a GUI for~~ further comprising making changes to the user's information.

33. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 30, wherein ~~the registration wizard includes a GUI for~~ further comprising displaying the user information including an account information.

34. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 33, wherein the account information includes an account balance.

35. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 29, wherein the ~~installation wizard~~ first GUI includes a GUI for specifying an address book so that the system can use the address book to print addresses.

36. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 30, wherein the ~~registration wizard~~ first GUI includes a GUI for

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entering a password so that the server can store the entered password and verify the password.

37. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 29, wherein the server includes an address matching database for verifying an address entered by the user.

38. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 29, wherein the ~~installation wizard~~ first GUI includes a GUI for the user to specify the type of connection to the computer network.

39. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 29, wherein the ~~installation wizard~~ first GUI includes a GUI for reporting error messages to the user.

40. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 29, wherein the ~~installation wizard~~ first GUI includes a GUI for canceling an installation process.

41. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 30, wherein the ~~registration wizard~~ first GUI includes a GUI for entering user information.

42. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 30, wherein the ~~registration wizard~~ first GUI includes a GUI for offering the user a plurality of service plans and selecting by the user a service plan of choice.

43. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 30, wherein the ~~registration wizard~~ first GUI includes a GUI for reporting error messages to the user.

44. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 29, wherein the ~~printing wizard~~ first GUI includes a third GUI for displaying a graphical image of a sample postage on an envelope.

45. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 29, wherein the ~~printing wizard~~ first GUI includes a third GUI for printing a quality assurance VBI.

46. (Canceled)

47. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 29, wherein the ~~printing wizard~~ first GUI includes a GUI for troubleshooting selected printing options.

48. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 29, wherein the ~~printing wizard~~ first GUI includes a GUI for providing envelope options.

49. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 29, wherein the ~~printing wizard~~ first GUI includes a GUI for providing label options.

50. (Currently Amended) The system method of claim 29, wherein the ~~printing wizard~~ first GUI includes a GUI for providing postage options.

51. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ method of claim 29, wherein the ~~printing wizard~~ first GUI includes a GUI for reporting error messages to the user.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-20, 22-45 and 47-51 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per independent Claim 1, the best prior art Kara (US 5,825,893) in view of Slayden et al. (US 5,680,629) and further in view of Ryan, Jr. et al. (US 5,871,288) teaches a system for printing postage meter stamp, comprising:

a client subsystem for interfacing with a user comprising:
a GUI for installing software for printing (a printing wizard) the value bearing item; a GUI for registering the user in the system; a printing wizard for managing the printing of the VBI; a server subsystem for transmitting an authorization message to the client subsystem for authorizing the client subsystem to print the VBI while the server subsystem is in communication with the client subsystem; a printing wizard, wherein the wizard determines top, center or bottom offset and prints the document, and wherein, after reviewing the documents (if the document shows any offset), the user can always go back to page-set-up program so as to determine top, center or bottom offset and ultimately print the document. Furthermore, the combination teaches that the user prints a test print of an indicia (bar code), and inspects the print for errors. If quality of the print is acceptable, the user then proceeds with printing.

However, Kara in view of Slayden et al. and further in view of Ryan, Jr. et al. does not teach that said server/controller is configured to access the printers database and when feed information of the user printer is in the printers database, the controller is further configured to control the user printer to print a first quality assurance indicium,

and to display on the display monitor a second quality assurance indicium, wherein the printing wizard includes a user interface and the controller is further configured to accept user feedback from the user interface about whether the printed first quality assurance indicium compares correctly to the displayed second quality assurance indicium, and when the user feedback input from the user interface indicates that the first quality assurance indicium compares correctly, the controller is further configured to upload the feed information for the user printer from the printers database and to control the user printer to print the VBI.

As per independent Claim 29, the best prior art Rourke (US 5,384,886) in view of Slayden et al. and further in view of Ryan, Jr. et al. teaches a system for printing envelopes electronically comprising a first GUI for printing a sample print including a symbol, and a second GUI for displaying a plurality of symbols for a users to select one of the displayed plurality of symbols matching the symbol printed on the sample print. Furthermore, the combination teaches a printing wizard, wherein the wizard determines top, center or bottom offset and prints the document, and wherein, after reviewing the documents (if the document shows any offset), the user can always go back to page-set-up program so as to determine top, center or bottom offset and ultimately print the document, and wherein the user prints a test print of an indicia (bar code), and inspects the print for errors. If quality of the print is acceptable, the user then proceeds with printing.

However, Rourke in view of Slayden et al. and further in view of Ryan, Jr. et al. fails to disclose displaying a plurality of selectable predetermined indicators for a user to select one of the displayed plurality of predetermined indicators that matches the predetermined indicator printed with the sample print; and establishing the user printer as a top feed printer, center a feed printer, or a bottom feed printer, based on the matched predetermined indicator selected by the user.

The best foreign art, Bresnan et al. teaches a system producing a mail piece, wherein a user selects at a first node a plurality of characteristics defining a mailing and

including selection of a document to be printed and a list of addresses. However, Bresnan et al. fails to disclose accepting user feedback from the user interface about whether the printed first quality assurance indicium compares correctly to the displayed second quality assurance indicium, and when the user feedback input from the user interface indicates that the first quality assurance indicium compares correctly, uploading the feed information for the user printer from the printers database and controlling the user printer to print the VBI. Also, the Publication fails to disclose displaying a plurality of selectable predetermined indicators for a user to select one of the displayed plurality of predetermined indicators that matches the predetermined indicator printed with the sample print; and establishing the user printer as a top feed printer, center a feed printer, or a bottom feed printer, based on the matched predetermined indicator selected by the user.

The best non-patent literature, USPS Publication No. 25 "Designing Letter Mail", August 1995, teaches requirements for top, center or bottom offset during printing value bearing indicia. However, the Publication fails to disclose accepting user feedback from the user interface about whether the printed first quality assurance indicium compares correctly to the displayed second quality assurance indicium, and when the user feedback input from the user interface indicates that the first quality assurance indicium compares correctly, uploading the feed information for the user printer from the printers database and controlling the user printer to print the VBI. Also, the Publication fails to disclose displaying a plurality of selectable predetermined indicators for a user to select one of the displayed plurality of predetermined indicators that matches the predetermined indicator printed with the sample print; and establishing the user printer as a top feed printer, center a feed printer, or a bottom feed printer, based on the matched predetermined indicator selected by the user.

The remaining dependent Claims are considered allowable, as they are dependent and based off of an allowable independent Claims.

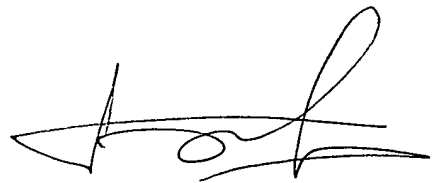
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Igor Borissov whose telephone number is 571-272-6801. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hayes can be reached on 571-272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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09/23/2006



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PRIMARY EXAMINER